

**MINUTES OF THE
FEDERAL FUNDS COMMISSION**

Tuesday, June 18, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. – Room 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Deidre M. Henderson, Chair
Rep. Ken Ivory, Vice Chair
Sen. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe
Mr. Evan Curtis
Mr. Daniel Griffiths
Mr. John Reidhead
Ms. Susan Speirs
Mr. Robert Spendlove

Members Absent:

Rep. Daniel McCay
Mr. Richard Davis
Mr. Roger Jones

Staff Present:

Mr. Phillip V. Dean, Policy Analyst
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General
Counsel
Ms. Samantha Coombs, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Commission Business

Chair Henderson called the meeting to order at 8:26 a.m. Mr. Spendlove joined the meeting remotely by phone.

MOTION: Sen. Valentine moved to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2013, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Appointment of Commission Members

Chair Henderson explained the commission's task to appoint four commission members from the public.

MOTION: Rep. Ivory moved that Mr. Richard Davis, City Manager, West Jordan, Ms. Susan Speirs, Utah Association of Certified Public Accountants, and Mr. Dan Griffiths, Utah Association of Certified Public Accountants, be appointed as members of the commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Members of the commission discussed the qualifications of three other candidates.

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved that Mr. Roger Jones, Executive Director, Bear River Association of Governments, be appointed as a member of the commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Henderson invited the newly appointed members to join the other commission members on the dais.

3. Overview of Impact of Federal Funds in Utah

Mr. Dean presented "An Overview of the Federal Budget," which included the Congressional Budget Office's spending and revenue projections. Mr. Dean highlighted the distinction between the federal government's mandatory and discretionary spending, and outlined the basics of the federal budget process.

Rep. Ivory illustrated the challenges of identifying consistent and reliable projections that can be used to clearly understand the nation's budget and overall spending.

Mr. Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, presented "Federal Spending in Utah." Mr. Syphus explained that the majority of federal expenditures in Utah come in the form of grants.

Members of the commission discussed the challenges for determining and selecting which figures to use as a guide which accurately reflect the state's level of dependency on federal funds. Commission members also discussed the possible multiplier effect if federal funds received by the state were decreased, and the need for further dialogue to determine ways the state can reduce its federal dependency on both a statewide and personal level.

4. Risk Management Planning

Mr. Griffiths briefed the commission on enterprise risk management principles and how they can be applied to government. Mr. Griffiths provided examples to illustrate the importance of identifying risks in order to mitigate the consequences of potential crises and determine how much risk the state can absorb if one or more of those crises were to occur.

Chair Henderson suggested the commission move forward by participating in a brainstorming process to identify the risks posed to the state in the various sectors.

Mr. Griffiths suggested that the commission move to a less formal setting, or create focus groups, in order to effectively brainstorm and identify the risks.

Discussion followed by members of the commission regarding the Open and Public Meetings Act and potential ways members of the commission could participate in brainstorming sessions in a less formal setting without violating the act.

Mr. Dean discussed the possible use of working groups which would include commission members and individuals from the community that could meet separately and report back to the commission on their work.

MOTION: Rep. Ivory moved that a working group be created, under the direction of Ms. Speirs, which would meet and provide suggestions to the commission for how to move forward with additional working groups. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Valentine, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Jones were absent for the vote.

5. Other Items/Adjourn

Mr. Bryce Jorgenson, SOS Financial Partners, expressed interest in participating in the working groups that will be created by the commission.

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Valentine, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Jones were absent for the vote.

Chair Henderson adjourned the meeting at 10:04 a.m.